

Message Text

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20

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 MC-02 OES-04 OMB-01

/115 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
APPROVED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO) '
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
NEA/ARN - MR.-KORN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL
NEA - MR. SOBER

----- 028432

R 072135Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING NOVEMBER 7, 1974:

Q. TWO THINGS ON THE MIDDLE EAST. ONE IS THAT WHILE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER AND VARIOUS PEOPLE IN THE
STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE SAID THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN ARMS
DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL, THE INFORMATION MINISTER OF ISRAEL
SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS STEPPING UP ARMS DELIVERIES.
COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON ON THAT SCORE?

AND SECONDLY, DOES THE UNITED STATES NOW RECOGNIZE THE
LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS AS STATED AT THE
WHITE HOUSE, APPARENTLY YESTERDAY?

A. WELL, ON YOUR FIRST QUESTION, LET ME SAY THIS, THAT
THE RECENT FLURRY OF STORIES ABOUT A SPEEDUP OF U.S. ARMS
TO ISRAEL ARE NOT ACCURATE. THERE HAS BEEN NO SUCH SPEED-
UP.

SECONDLY, WITH RESPECT TO OUR POSITION ON THE PALESTINIAN
ISSUE, IT WAS STATED YESTERDAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE BY RON

NESSEN, AND I WOULD REFER YOU TO THAT.

Q. WE RECOGNIZE THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS?

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A. I WOULD REFER YOU TO THAT STATEMENT.

Q. ON THE FIRST PART OF MARILYN'S QUESTION, YARIV IS
QUOTED AS SAYING THAT ISRAEL HAS BEEN ASSURED AN IMPORTANT
ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF ARMS, AND THAT "AN IMPORTANT PART OF
THIS HARDWARE WILL GET TO ISRAEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE." ARE
YOU DENYING THAT THAT IS AN ACCURATE STATEMENT?

A. I WOULD LET MY COMMENTS STAND. I WOULD ONLY ADD THAT IT IS, AS YOU KNOW, OUR POLICY NOT TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF OUR ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. BUT I WOULD REFER YOU BACK TO THE STATEMENT PUT OUT BY THE WHITE HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 13, IN WHICH IT IS STATED -- THIS WAS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN -- AND IT SAID: "THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER REVIEWED THE ONGOING U.S. MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP, AND THE PRESIDENT RE-AFFIRMED THE CONTINUITY OF THAT RELATIONSHIP." AND IT WAS IN THAT CONTEXT THAT THERE WERE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER AND AMBASSADOR DINITZ.

Q. WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SAYING ANYTHING TO US. I ASKED YOU TO COMMENT SPECIFICALLY ON THE QUOTE FROM MR. YARIV AND NOT ON THE STORIES THEMSELVES BUT ON THESE WORDS. AND WHAT THEY SAID AT THE WHITE HOUSE TWO MONTHS AGO I DON'T THINK RESPONDS TO THAT QUESTION.

A. I'M NOT GOING TO RESPOND TO WORDS WHICH YOU ARE READING TO ME FROM A NEWSPAPER. I'M COMMENTING ON REPORTS THAT THE UNITED STATES IS SPEEDING UP ARMS SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL.

Q. BUT WAIT. THE NEWSPAPER CARRIED MR. YARIV'S STATEMENT, BUT THAT'S NOT A NEWSPAPER REPORT.

A. I'M NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON MR. YARIV'S STATEMENT.

Q. YOU WON'T SAY IT'S CORRECT OR INCORRECT?

A. I'M NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON IT. INGERSOLL

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